

Amended claims

Sub
A1

1. A method for treating mechanical pulp, **characterized** in that an aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added to the pulp, in the amount of 0.5 – 5 kg/ton of pulp, to affect the opacity.
2. A method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the amount of aliphatic percarboxylic acid that is added is 1 – 3 kg/ton of pulp.
3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is selected from among performic acid, peracetic acid or perpropionic acid.
4. A method according to any of the preceding Claims, **characterized** in that the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is distilled or equilibrated peracetic acid.
5. A method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added to the pulp in connection with or after bleaching.
6. A method according to Claim 5, **characterized** in that the pulp has been bleached with hydrogen peroxide and/or dithionite.
7. A method according to Claim 1 or 5, **characterized** in that the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is typically added at a pulp consistency of 1 – 40%.
8. A method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that a mixture of aliphatic percarboxylic acid and Caro's acid is added to the pulp.
9. The use of aliphatic percarboxylic acid to improve the opacity of mechanical pulp, in which the amount of percarboxylic acid is 0.5 – 5 kg/ton of pulp.